

Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport



Plan for 2020-21

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Statement from the Minister



*The Honourable
Gene Makowsky
Minister of Parks, Culture
and Sport*

I am pleased to present the Parks, Culture and Sport Plan for 2020-21.

Government Direction and Budget 2020-21 is focused on growth for a better quality of life – fostering a strong economy, creating strong communities and strong families – and Building a Strong Saskatchewan.

We are continuing to build a strong province by enhancing quality of life and economic growth. Provincial Parks and the Royal Saskatchewan Museum (RSM) are popular year-round destinations for residents and visitors. Facility and infrastructure improvements in 2020-21 will build a stronger Saskatchewan, ensuring visitors continue enjoying these unique spaces now and for years to come.

We will invest in many capital improvements at provincial parks, including campground service centre replacements at Pike Lake and Good Spirit Lake Provincial Parks, completion of the swimming pool at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park and interior renovations at the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park pool building. We will also invest in the RSM to support the development of a new major exhibit, while improving infrastructure to accommodate increased visitation.

Numerous strategies are underway to increase knowledge and awareness of culture, French language, heritage, sport and recreation, including the implementation of a French Speaking Employee Group within the Government of Saskatchewan.

We will support Wanuskewin Heritage Park's application to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Our progress will be reported in the 2020-21 annual report.

Response to Government Direction

The Government of Saskatchewan is committed to *Building a Strong Saskatchewan*. Investing in strong communities and strong families creates opportunities for a better quality of life for the people of our province. Maintaining a strong economy will enable us to build upon the past decade of growth and continue to provide the services, jobs and infrastructure that meets Saskatchewan's needs.

Saskatchewan's Vision

"... to be the best place in Canada – to live, to work, to start a business, to get an education, to raise a family and to build a life."



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

Saskatchewan's vision and three goals provide the strategic direction for organizations to align their programs and services to build a strong Saskatchewan.

All organizations will report on progress in their 2020-21 annual reports.

Operational Plan

Mandate Statement

The ministry's strategic focus is on quality of life and economic growth. The ministry works with diverse groups and communities to enhance the Province's cultural, artistic, recreational and social life; to promote excellence in the arts, culture, heritage and sport; and to represent the interests of the province's French-language population. The ministry manages and enhances Saskatchewan's provincial parks system, conserves ecosystems and cultural resources, and provides recreational and interpretive opportunities for park visitors.

Mission Statement

Contribute to Saskatchewan's high quality of life, instill pride and enhance economic growth through management of the Saskatchewan provincial parks system, the provision of arts, culture, recreation, sport and tourism opportunities, access to French-language services and through stewardship of provincial heritage resources.

Government Goals



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

This supports the government direction from *Saskatchewan's Growth Plan*, growing Saskatchewan's tourism industry by increasing tourist expenditures in Saskatchewan by 50 per cent by 2030.

Ministry Goal

Provide high quality visitor experiences

Strategy

Invest in infrastructure to meet client demands

Key Actions

- Maintain and renew park infrastructure through the parks long-term capital plan including investments in park infrastructure such as upgrades to campgrounds, service centres, boat launches and trails.
- Expand park infrastructure to respond to growing park visitor demands for camping, recreational and cultural opportunities.
- Invest in a new major exhibit and improve infrastructure at the RSM to accommodate increased visitation.

Strategy

Enhance visitor programs and service delivery

Key Actions

- Conduct visitor and market research to continuously improve programs and services through the provincial park system and at the RSM. A focus will be on attracting new non-traditional visitors.
- Improve customer service (both in-person and online) to meet visitor expectations.
- Attract and partner with private businesses to develop new and exciting recreational opportunities in provincial parks.
- Maintain safe and natural public spaces in provincial parks.
- Promote provincial parks as year round destinations and encourage use through targeted winter programming and recreational opportunities.
- Revitalize and continuously improve exhibits and programs at the RSM, through a multi-year plan, to increase visitation, and appreciation and education of the province's natural history.



Performance Measures

Visitation in Saskatchewan provincial parks:

Number of visitor days

Target: Increase the number of visitor days at provincial parks.

Number of camping permit nights sold in Saskatchewan provincial parks

Target: Increase the number of camping permit nights sold in provincial parks.

Number of entry permits sold in Saskatchewan provincial parks

Target: Increase the number of entry permits sold in provincial parks.

Satisfaction with Saskatchewan provincial park visit

Target: More than 85 per cent of visitors to Saskatchewan provincial park are satisfied with their visit in 2020-21.

Number of visitors to the RSM (based on a five-year average of between 55 per cent and 66 per cent of metro market population)

Target: Increase the number of visitors to the RSM to a five-year average of 131,000 by March 31, 2021.

Government Goals



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

This supports the government direction from *Saskatchewan's Growth Plan*, growing Saskatchewan's tourism industry by increasing tourist expenditures in Saskatchewan by 50 per cent by 2030 and securing a better quality of life for Saskatchewan's families and communities.

Ministry Goal

Protect Saskatchewan's park lands and heritage

Strategy

Improve conservation and management of heritage data and resources

Key Actions

- Manage the Provincial Heritage Program to support the protection of heritage properties under legislation.
- Maintain and develop provincial heritage databases to support the collection, preservation and sharing of valuable provincial heritage data.
- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of client services provided by the Heritage Conservation Branch in assessing requests for development on land with heritage sensitivities.



Strategy

Improve the preservation and management of heritage collections

Key Action

- Manage risks associated with the storage and preservation of the RSM’s increasing collections.

Strategy

Improve the health of provincial park ecosystems

Key Action

- Improve our understanding of the state and condition of park ecosystems and improve the quality of ecosystem integrity.

Performance Measures

Number of new Provincial Heritage Property designations per year

Target: Designate two new Provincial Heritage Properties by March 31, 2021.

Average number of days for a development application to receive approval to proceed

Target: Achieve a 20 per cent reduction in turnaround time for a development application approval by March 31, 2021.

Number of provincial parks managed by ecosystem-based management plans

Target: All twelve natural environment parks are managed by ecosystem-based management plans within five years.

Hectares of park land treated per year to manage ecosystem health and integrity

Target: Treat more than 30,000 hectares of park land annually.

Government Goals



A Strong Economy



Strong Communities



Strong Families

This supports the government direction from *Saskatchewan’s Growth Plan*, showcasing Saskatchewan through the creative sector and securing a better quality of life for Saskatchewan’s families and communities.

Ministry Goal

Connect citizens to culture, French language, heritage, sport and recreation

Strategy

Increase engagement, inclusion and access

Key Actions

- Invest in Creative Saskatchewan and the creative sector to showcase and bring our province’s creative talent and cultural products to market.
- Support community investments through the Saskatchewan Lotteries Trust Fund and the Community Initiatives Fund to strengthen the capacity of communities to deliver quality sports, culture and recreation programs and services.
- Invest in the Saskatchewan Arts Board to enrich community well-being, diversity and artistic prosperity through the arts.



- Invest in the Western Development Museum to collect, preserve and exhibit objects of historical value and importance connected with the economic and cultural development of western Canada and to stimulate interest in western Canadian history.
- Build and maintain partnerships to reduce barriers to participation in sport, culture and recreation.
- Provide a translation service to ministries, Crown corporations and agencies to enhance French-language service offerings.
- Manage the French-language Services Centre to provide public access to Government of Saskatchewan services and programs.
- Expand French-language government services delivered to the public online or over the phone.
- Enhance the Saskatchewan Geographic Names program to incorporate Indigenous engagement and input.
- Attract new and non-traditional visitors to the provincial parks through inclusive recreational, educational and cultural programs, services and events.

Strategy

Increase knowledge and awareness of culture, French language, heritage, sport and recreation

Key Actions

- Support the implementation of the *Common Vision for Physical Activity* and the *Framework for Recreation in Canada* through engagement with provincial stakeholders.
- Support Wanuskewin Heritage Park's application to become a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
- Implement guidelines for the French-language Services Policy.
- Implement a French speaking employee group within the Government of Saskatchewan.
- Work with federal, provincial and territorial partners and the Geographic Names Board of Canada to promote awareness of the value of heritage conservation.
- Continue to promote ground-breaking research and discoveries by RSM scientists in the areas of Indigenous studies, zoology, human ecology and paleontology.

Strategy

Support the capacity and accountability of government-funded organizations

Key Action

- Improve the effectiveness of board members of ministry-funded organizations through governance training initiatives.

Performance Measures

Number of sport, culture and recreation third parties with harassment, abuse and discrimination policies in place

Target: Increase the number of sport, culture and recreation third parties with harassment, abuse and discrimination policies in place by 10 per cent over the baseline by March 31, 2021.

Percentage of inquiries responded to by the French-language Services Centre

Target: 100 per cent of inquiries made to the French-language Service Centre will be responded to within 48 hours.

Number of pages on saskatchewan.ca/bonjour

Target: Increase by 10 per cent the number of pages on saskatchewan.ca/bonjour by March 31, 2021.

Percentage of attendees reporting an increase in knowledge after participating in a Heritage Conservation Branch training event

Target: 75 per cent of event attendees report an increase in knowledge.

Highlights

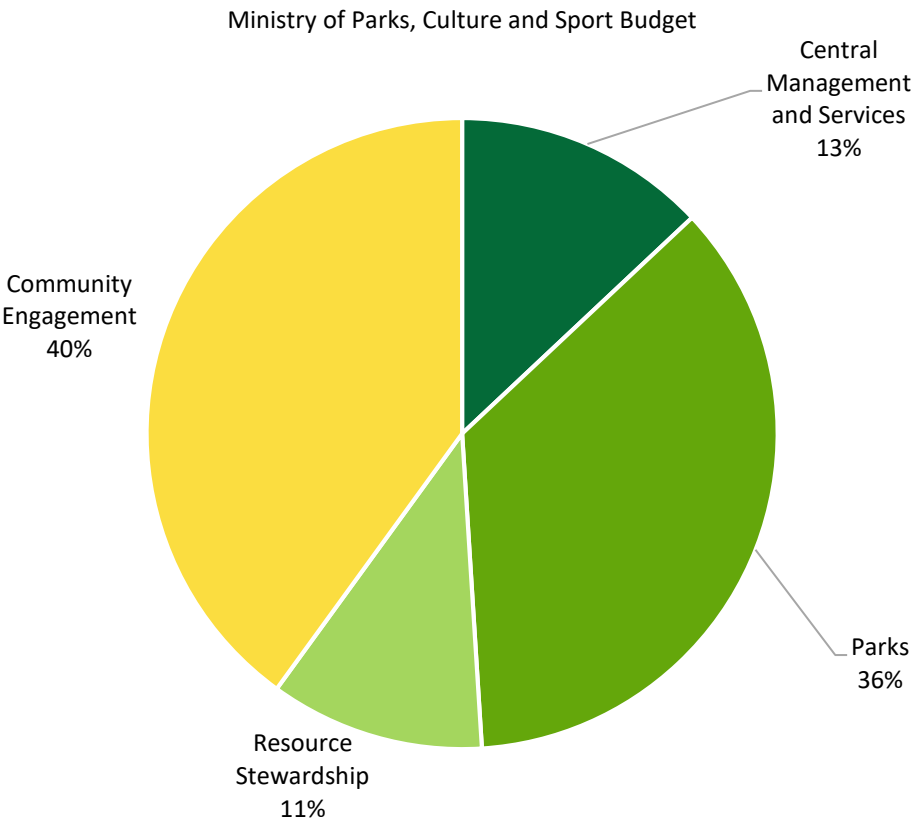
2020-21 Budget Highlights:

- \$10 million invested in capital improvement and \$1.6 million in capital maintenance in provincial parks.
- Planned capital improvements in provincial parks include:
 - Campground service centre replacements at Pike Lake and Good Spirit Lake Provincial Parks;
 - Completion of the swimming pool at Buffalo Pound Provincial Park; and,
 - Interior renovations at the Cypress Hills Interprovincial Park pool building.
- Invest in a new major exhibit and improve infrastructure at the RSM to accommodate increased visitation and visitor expectations for exhibit renewal and overall effectiveness in protecting and conserving the province's natural history.
- Continued investment in provincial heritage, arts and culture through grants for the Saskatchewan Arts Board, Creative Saskatchewan, Western Development Museum and Wanuskewin Heritage Park.
- Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of client services provided by the Heritage Conservation Branch in assessing requests for development on land with heritage sensitivities.

Financial Summary

| Ministry of Parks, Culture and Sport 2020-21 Estimates (\$65 million) | | (in thousands of dollars) |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| Central Management and Services | | \$9,268 |
| Parks | | \$25,562 |
| Resource Stewardship | | \$7,553 |
| Community Engagement | | \$27,964 |
| Ministry Operations Appropriation | | \$70,347 |
| Capital Assets Acquisitions | | \$(10,180) |
| Non-appropriated Expense Adjustment | | \$5,126 |
| Total Expense | | \$65,293 |

For more information, see the Budget Estimates at: <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/budget>



For More Information

Please visit the Ministry’s website at <http://www.saskatchewan.ca/government/government-structure/ministries/parks-culture-and-sport>